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31354 U.S. PTO  
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021104

**Box PATENT APPLICATION**  
**Assistant Commissioner for Patents**  
**Washington, D.C. 20231**

New U.S. Non-Provisional Patent Application

Title: IDENTIFICATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF  
RACEMASES, DEFINITION OF PROTEIN SIGNATURES,  
AND A TEST FOR DETECTING D-AMINO ACID AND  
FOR SCREENING MOLECULES CAPABLE OF INHIBITING  
THE ACTIVITY OF RACEMASE, ESPECIALLY  
PROLINE RACEMASE

Inventors: Paola MINOPRIO, Nathalie CHAMOND,  
Wim M. DEGRAVE and Armand BERNEMAN

Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above patent application.

Application - 79 pages, including title page, 9 page Annex, 14 independent claims, and 54 claims total.

Drawings - 13 sheets of formal drawings (Figures 1A-D, 2A-D, 3A-C, and 4-12)

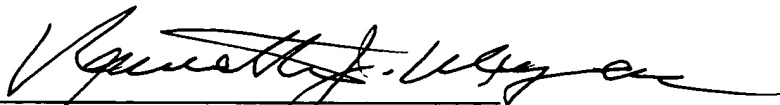
Applicants claim the right to priority based on Provisional Patent Application No. 60/446,263, filed February 11, 2003.

This application is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f). Applicants await notification from the Patent and Trademark Office of the time set for filing the Declaration.

Please accord this application a serial number and filing date.

Respectfully submitted,

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